



## SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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September 23, 2005

Colonel Robert M. Carpenter  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Jacksonville District  
CESAJ-EN, P.O. Box 4970  
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Dear Colonel Carpenter:

**Subject: Transmittal of Technical Information in Support of a Managed  
Recession in Spring 2006 as a Temporary Planned Deviation to the  
Water Supply and Environment (WSE) Regulation Schedule for Lake  
Okeechobee**

In light of the continuing ecological problems in Lake Okeechobee, as a result of both the hurricanes of 2004 and elevated lake stages, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) requests that the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) evaluate the feasibility of implementing a temporary planned deviation from the normal operations under the Water Control Plan for Lake Okeechobee and Everglades Agricultural Area.

Enclosed is technical information on the status of the ecosystem along with a summary of the preliminary modeling results on how a managed recession could be accomplished.

The SFWMD looks forward to working with the USACE to carry out this operation. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call Dr. Susan Gray, Director of the Lake Okeechobee Division, at 561-682-6919.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chip Merriam", is written over the word "Sincerely," and extends across the line.

Chip Merriam  
Deputy Executive Director  
Water Resources

CM/sg  
Enclosure

c: Susan Gray, Ph.D., SFWMD  
Tom Olliff, SFWMD  
SFWMD Governing Board Members  
Carol Wehle, SFWMD

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